



City of Trinity

Subdivisions and Neighborhood Street Lighting Petition Policy

Overview

Residential streetlights are installed within the City of Trinity by petition of the City Council. Residents may request a petition to have a streetlight plan prepared to light either their entire neighborhood or a subdivision of a neighborhood. The City will work with Duke Energy to design a pattern of streetlights specifically for the neighborhood that will best serve the residents needs, and meet code and safety requirements.

Petition Process

A petition must be submitted to the City Clerk of Trinity signed by 75% of property owners within an area that meets the criteria for an eligible area as defined below. Once the required petition process has been completed, streetlights will be installed by Duke Energy and the City of Trinity will pay for the power to operate them.

There is no installation cost to residents if standard fixtures, supports and overhead wiring are used. Petitioners requesting decorative fixtures and supports and/or underground wiring are responsible for additional costs as required by the City and Duke Energy. All up-front costs must be paid prior to installation. City staff will assist in determining the cost of underground wiring and decorative fixtures and supports.

Eligible Areas

For purposes of this Policy an eligible area is a length of contiguous homes fronting the same street or adjoining streets within the same block or within 200 feet of an intersection. No street address number may be omitted from the contiguous listing. The minimum number of homes to be defined as a subdivision or neighborhood shall be equal to or greater than ten within a third of a mile (1760 feet).

Petition

The installation of streetlights requires support of at least 75% of the residents, measured by means of a petition. Only one homeowner's signature per property will be counted. The lead petitioner will be expected to explain the petition process and the concept for street lighting with all households in the neighborhood. Due to the ever-changing character of neighborhoods, the petition process should be completed **within 90 days**. Petitions returned later than that may be considered depending on residential turnover in the neighborhood. The completed petition is returned to the City of Trinity for final approval and authorization.

Design Preparation

Upon receipt of a valid petition and upon authorization by the City Council, City staff will work with Duke Energy to prepare a design showing the proposed placement of streetlights within the neighborhood. Placement of lights is based upon Duke Energy's existing facilities and the City of Trinity's lighting

requirements. Duke Energy representatives may meet with individual property owner's to finalize the plan. A copy of the finalized plan will be sent to the neighborhood contact person by the City.

Street lighting Plan

Only the City may delete lights from a final and approved streetlight plan. Streetlights shown on the plan generally cannot be relocated.

General Information & Installation Standards

- **Standard streetlights**

Are placed on wooden utility poles, and are usually a cobra head style

- **Underground wiring** is used only in areas currently served with underground utilities unless the submitted petition clearly states that underground wiring is requested. The petition must contain a statement acknowledging and agreeing to pay additional costs prior to installation.

- **Decorative streetlights** are used only in areas currently served with underground utilities. The submitted petition must contain a statement acknowledging and agreeing to pay additional costs prior to installation.

- Should Duke Energy need to install cable on private property, overhead or underground, the submittal of the petition is recognized as granting the right to make such installations.

- **Private items in the right-of-way**, such as sprinkler systems, invisible fencing, cables, wires, pvc conduits, household water lines, etc. are **NOT** the responsibility of Duke Energy or the City of Trinity. It is recommended that such items be removed from the right-of-way. At minimum, they must be flagged or otherwise marked so that they may be avoided.

- The City of Trinity retains exclusive authority to determine final placement of all streetlights.

New Subdivisions

In accordance with the City of Trinity Subdivision Ordinance all new subdivisions must submit a lighting plan, showing locations and types of lights to be used, as part of the preliminary plat process for approval by the City. All lights must be installed prior to final acceptance of the streets by the City. All up-front charges must be paid by the developer. Streets will not be accepted if any up-front charges to the power company remain un-paid.

Decorative Streetlights

General Information

Duke Energy provides several styles of decorative lighting fixtures. A one-time fee will be required from the applicants prior to the installation of such lighting. Style of lighting must be approved by the City Council for each location.

Decorative lighting is available to neighborhoods designated by Duke Energy as having underground electrical service. Neighborhoods with overhead electrical service may request the decorative lighting

option with an additional one-time installation charge covering the cost of placing service to the lights underground. A letter from the neighborhood association, or a neighborhood commitment to a consistent style of lighting through a neighborhood is required.

Caution should be used in selecting decorative lighting. Since they are mounted at 12' instead of the 25' for standard light, lighting patterns may not provide full coverage of a street with dark spots present. Decorative lights are not available on thoroughfares or collector streets.

Traffic Considerations

On streets with speed limits greater than thirty-five (35) miles per hour, lights will be installed only on a full block by block basis to prevent the creation of "blind spots" between lighted areas. Streets crossing a proposed street light project, regardless of its speed limit, will have streetlights installed for a minimum distance of two hundred feet from the intersection. All households, including those seventy-five feet from the last side street light will be included in the limits of the petition. Conversely, in neighborhoods abutting major streets, the street lighting will end two hundred feet from the intersection unless the petition's limits are block to block.

If the City becomes aware that there exists an unsafe situation defined as twice as many nighttime accidents as in the daytime, the City staff will assess the benefit of street lights and recommend to City Council the proposed improvements.

Public Safety Considerations

Although consideration is given to the crime rate of the area, it is not a major factor for determining the installation by the City of streetlights. Requests for individual streetlights for protection of private property may be made directly to Duke Energy and the applicant shall assume all costs.

We the undersigned request that the City of Trinity ***DO NOT PROCEED*** with the installation of street lights at the petitioned location.

Property Owner/Resident Signature (Please sign and print name)	Street Address	Telephone

Please make additional copies of the petition, if needed, for signatures

This request should be signed by property owners within the development and submitted to the City Clerk, Trinity City Hall , PO Box 50, 6701 NC Highway 62, Trinity, NC 27370

FOR CITY USE

Number of Homes within petition limits _____	GIS Boundary Map prepared _____
Number Needed for a Sufficient Petition _____	Street Class Map included _____
Date Petition Received _____ by _____	
Sufficient / Insufficient by _____	Approved by City Council _____
Date Sent to Duke for design _____	Draft plan received by City _____
Date Plan sent to Lead Petitioner _____	Date plan returned _____
Plan Accepted _____ Notice to Proceed Date _____	Completed _____